

Community Pharmacy Bulletin



30 April 2021



NHS England and NHS Improvement – South West

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Coming Up

	April	May	June
Week 1	Good Friday 2 April 2021 Easter Sunday 4 April 2021	Early May Bank Holiday Monday 3 May 2021	
Week 2	Easter Monday 5 April 2021	Smartcard access to MYS end on 16 May 2021. Access will be using NHSmail credentials, register here	
Week 3			
Week 4			
Week 5	Pre-Registration Pharmacists Exam Results 29 April 2021	Spring Bank Holiday Monday 31 May 2021	Data Security Toolkit deadline 30 June 2021

Headlines from the Week

NHS England

- [New photographs show the people behind the national vaccination effort](#)
- [Using NHS Volunteer Responders to deliver budesonide inhalers to COVID-19 patients](#)

NHS England South West Regional Team

- None

PSNC Bulletin

- [Inhaled Budesonide for adults with C-19](#)
- [May 2021 Drug Tariff](#)
- [Payment timetable update](#)
- [April 2021 Price Concessions – 2nd Update](#)
- [Reminder: statutory requirement to report test results from LFDs](#)
- [SSPs currently in effect](#)
- [Have you booked your free CPCS training?](#)
- [Contractor Update: Negotiations begin on CPCF arrangements for 2021/22.](#)
- [Data Security and Protection Toolkit: PSNC guidance docs now available](#)

Bank Holiday Healthcare - Social Media Resources

Ahead of this week's bank holiday weekend, we have collated a set of social media assets (attached and links below) to be used across your social media channels, so that people are aware of access to services including pharmacies, dentists, GPs as well as using the NHS 111 service.

[Download the video and social media graphics here.](#)

The download features nationally created resources as well as some locally created assets, along with suggested copy for use in the attached toolkit.

On our website you can find out which South West pharmacies are open over the bank holiday weekend, that people can check online at <https://www.england.nhs.uk/south/info-professional/pharm-info/pharmacy-opening-hours/>.

COVID-19

COVID-19 Lateral Flow Device (LFD) Distribution Service – Online Survey Participation

(taken from Primary Care Bulletin – 29 April 2021 (Issue 125))

NHS Test and Trace are keen to hear feedback from community pharmacies delivering this service via a short online survey. The purpose of the survey is to understand your views and experience in order to consider any service improvements which could be beneficial for community pharmacies and the communities that they serve.

We are collecting information for analysis purposes only and individual data will be anonymised. Pharmacies taking part are asked to fill in the survey by [clicking here](#).

Call for a Polish Speaking Pharmacist to Help with Engaging the Polish Community in the Vaccination Programme

The CoViD Vaccination Programme is working hard to ensure all communities across the South West are able to access the vaccination and understand its importance. There are, however, some communities with lower uptake of the vaccination offer. One of these is the Polish community.

Where there is lower uptake in specific communities, we are seeking individuals who can connect with the community, particularly in their own language.

Are you a Polish speaking pharmacist? Would you prepared to, with support from our Communications Team, produce a short clip that can be shared with the Polish community on social media channels, to help them understand the importance of the programme and how to access it.

As you know, community pharmacy sites are an important part of the vaccination programme and this will be highlighted in this initiative.

If you can help please contact Claire Stanley (Senior Communications and Engagement Manager, NHS England & Improvement) on claire.stanley5@nhs.net or on 07710 152366.

Seasonal Flu

2020/2021 Flu Programme

(taken from Primary Care Bulletin – 22 April 2021 (Issue 123))

The annual flu reimbursement letter was updated on 1 April. A copy of the latest version can be found [online](#). The letter confirmed that those aged 50-64-year-old will be included in the 21/22 flu programme. The letter also confirmed the inclusion of a QIVr vaccine (Supemtek).

Community pharmacies and General Practice should ensure that they order enough vaccine to achieve or exceed the same level of uptake as the 2020/21 season. They may wish to consider ordering additional vaccine if required to support the vaccination of the 50-64-year-old cohort. Community pharmacy are expected to play a strong role in vaccinating the 50 to 64-year-old cohorts to ensure the availability of general practice capacity to continue their focus on flu and COVID-19 vaccination of the most vulnerable clinical cohorts.

Consultation Rooms

As a result of the Healthy Living Pharmacy Level 1 (HLP) criteria becoming Terms of Service requirements from **1 January 2021**, almost all pharmacies will need to have a consultation room.

The requirement for the consultation room is based on the existing requirement for a consultation room which is included in the service specifications of most of the [Advanced services](#); most pharmacies already comply with these requirements.

So, pharmacies included in a pharmaceutical list must have a consultation room that is:

- clearly designated as a room for confidential conversations, e.g. a sign is attached to the door to the room saying 'Consultation room'
- distinct from the general public areas of the pharmacy premises
- a room where both the person receiving the service and the person providing it are able to sit down together and communicate confidentially, e.g. without the details of that conversation being overhead by other people outside the consultation room who are in the pharmacy (paragraph 28A(1), Schedule 4)

There are, however, three exceptions to this requirement:

1. The pharmacy is too small (you must apply to NHS England & Improvement to have this exemption confirmed)
2. Pharmacies that have not previously provided advanced services will have until 1 April 2023 to create a consultation room within their pharmacy. They can apply for the exemption in 1 above
3. **Distance selling premises (DSPs).** They must however have arrangements in place which enable the person providing a pharmaceutical service, pharmacist, to communicate confidentially with the person receiving the service. These arrangements must allow for both parties to hear AND see each other. DSPs must ensure that there are arrangements in place at the pharmacy which enable staff and patients to communicate confidentially by telephone or another live audio link and a live video link

DSPs can choose to install a consultation room at their pharmacy to allow the provision of Enhanced and Advanced services on the premises, but this is not a requirement of the Terms of Service.

You can find further details at [Regs explainer \(#14\): Consultation rooms and remote consultations](#) :

While we know most of you will have consultation rooms there are some that do not. Therefore, we would require you to inform the Primary Care Pharmacy team, if you:

- Do not have a consultation room and are not a DSP pharmacy
- Use a consultation room that is not part of the registered pharmacy premises e.g. a pharmacy co-located with a surgery where they are able to make use of a room in the surgery part of the building

by emailing us at england.pharmacysouthwest@nhs.net

Medicine Supply Notification (MSN) and Serious Shortage Protocol (SSP)

Please find attached Medicine Supply Notifications for:

- A Tier 2 medicine supply notification for Estradot 75 micrograms/ 24 hours patches
- A Tier 2 medicine supply notification for Elleste Solo MX 40 and 80 patches

The table below provides a summary of the attached MSN:

Medicine	Out of stock until	Alternatives
Estradot 75 micrograms/ 24 hours patches	w/c 31 st May 2021	Evorel® 75 patches or Estraderm MX 75® patches (SSP in place).

Medicine	Out of stock until	Alternatives
Elleste Solo MX 40 and 80 patches	Discontinuation; remaining supplies are expected to be depleted by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 40 micrograms - October 2021 • 80 micrograms - July 2021 	Alternative brands of estradiol transdermal patches of different strengths remain available (further information in MSN).

Please note that supply issues that have been categorised as tier 1 or 2, DHSC and the MSRG have requested that the NHSE&I commissioning routes are used to reach community pharmacy and GP Practices. More serious supply issues are communicated via the Central Alerting System for action.

Serious Shortage Protocol

The SSP will enable community pharmacists in England and Wales to supply patients with Evorel® 75microgram patches OR Estraderm MX® 75 microgram patches. The SSP is now available to view on the NHS Business Service Authority (BSA)'s [dedicated SSP web page](#), along with supporting guidance. The SSP came into effect on 29 April 2021 and is currently due to expire on 4 June 2021. Should this change, the SSP will be updated accordingly and published on the BSA web page.

Please note that as switching between patches can cause side effects such as irritation or breakthrough bleeding, this SSP contains additional counselling points for patients and requires pharmacists to notify prescribers of any patient supplied in accordance with this SSP. Contractors should carefully read the SSP before making any supply in accordance with it.

If you have any questions regarding the SSPs please contact the NHS Prescription Service:

Email: nhsbsa.prescriptionservices@nhsbsa.nhs.uk

Telephone: 0300 330 1349

Textphone: 18001 0300 330 1349

Useful Information



NHS England & Improvement – South West Region Community Pharmacy Contract Management Team contact information

Team Member	Telephone	Address
Jenny Collins	07979 308749	South West Region Postal Addresses NHS England and Improvement – South West Peninsula House Kingsmill Road Tamar View Industrial Estate Saltash, PL12 6LE Or NHS England and Improvement – South West Sanger House, 5220 Valiant Court Gloucester Business Park, Brockworth Gloucester, GL3 4FE Or
Sharon Greaves	07900 715295	
Les Riggs	07730 371074	
Mary Cotton	07920 288191	
Michele Toy	07568 431890	
Sarah Lillington	07920 834445	
Sharon Hodges	07702 411295	
Tracey Howes	07730 380479	
Chris Yengel	07769 963478	

Kath Hughes	07730 374739	NHS England and Improvement – South West Jenner House, Avon Way Langley Park Chippenham, SN15 1GG <i>Please note all our offices are currently closed, please do not send post and use email wherever possible</i> Email: england.pharmacysouthwest@nhs.net
Hayley Colledge	07900 713005	
Lesley St Leger	07730 381871	
William Anderson	07783 821721	
Stacey Burch	07730 391418	

Webpages

Please see our websites for more information and any blank templates, forms and documents:

[Cornwall & Isles of Scilly, Devon, Bristol, Dorset, North Somerset, Somerset and South Gloucestershire](#)

[BaNES, Gloucestershire, Swindon or Wiltshire](#)

[Interpretation and Translation Services](#)

Social media assets for bank holiday healthcare – 3 May 2021

[Download the video and other social media graphics here.](#)

To use with Touts pharmacy video

Tweet

Your usual pharmacy may be closed over the bank holiday weekend, so don't forget to order any repeat medication you need as soon as possible.

Find and check your local pharmacy opening times online:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/south/info-professional/pharm-info/pharmacy-opening-hours/>

To use with pharmacy static assets

Tweet 1

Pharmacists are qualified experts in treating minor illnesses such as coughs, colds, stomach upsets and aches and pains.

If you need help this bank holiday, find your nearest open pharmacy:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/south/info-professional/pharm-info/pharmacy-opening-hours/>

Tweet 2

Healthcare is available throughout this bank holiday weekend for those who need it.

For less urgent health problems, talk to your nearest pharmacy. You can check bank holiday opening hours online: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/south/info-professional/pharm-info/pharmacy-opening-hours/>

Dental access static

Tweet

If you need urgent dental treatment this bank holiday— the NHS is here for you. Call your dentist, or use the NHS 111 online service. They will be able to arrange an appointment if it's necessary. <https://111.nhs.uk>

GP access static

Tweet

If you need urgent medical help this bank holiday, call your GP, or use the NHS 111 online service. They will be able to arrange an appointment if it's necessary. <https://111.nhs.uk>



Medicine Supply Notification

MSN/2021/023

Estradot[®] (estradiol hemihydrate) 75micrograms/24 hours patches

Tier 2 – medium impact*

Date of issue: 29/04/2021

Summary

- Estradot[®] 75micrograms/24 hours patches are out of stock until w/c 31 May 2021.
- Evorel[®] 75 patches and Estraderm MX 75[®] patches remain available and can support an increase in demand (each patch contains 75micrograms of estradiol).
- A Serious Shortage Protocol (SSP) was issued on 29/04/2021.

Actions Required

For patients with insufficient supplies of Estradot[®] 75micrograms/24 hours patches:

- community pharmacists may supply Evorel[®] 75 patches or Estraderm MX 75[®] patches in accordance with the SSP for eligible patients (see supporting information below).
- Patients should be counselled regarding the switch in brand at the point of supply.
- Pharmacists must ensure that the patient's prescriber and/or GP practice is notified when supplying a patient in accordance with this SSP.
- If the above is not deemed appropriate, patients should be referred to the prescriber to establish if ongoing treatment is required and switch to an alternative hormone replacement therapy (HRT).

Supporting information

- Please see the link below for further information on the Estradot[®] 75micrograms/24 hours patch SSP:
<https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/pharmacies-gp-practices-and-appliance-contractors/serious-shortage-protocols-ssps>
- Please refer to the SPCs for further information on all preparations:
[SPC Estradot[®] 75micrograms/24 hours patches](#)
[SPC Evorel[®] 75 patches](#)
[SPC Estraderm MX[®] 75 patches](#)

Further updates:

DHSC will continue to provide updates on HRT availability in the monthly supply issues update which is uploaded to the Specialist Pharmacy Services (SPS) website.

To access the document, you can register with the SPS website if you have an nhs email address. **Once signed into SPS**, the full document and all Medicine Supply Notifications can be found [here](#).

Enquiries

If you have any queries, please contact DHSCmedicinesupplyteam@dhsc.gov.uk.

*Classification of Tiers can be found at the following link:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/a-guide-to-managing-medicines-supply-and-shortages/>



Medicine Supply Notification

MSN/2021/024

Elleste Solo MX[®] 40 transdermal patches
Elleste Solo MX[®] 80 transdermal patches
Tier 2 – medium impact*
Date of issue: 29/04/2021

Summary

- Elleste Solo MX[®] 40 and 80 transdermal patches are being discontinued and remaining supplies are expected to be depleted by October 2021 and July 2021, respectively.
- Alternative brands of estradiol transdermal patches of different strengths remain available

Actions Required

All healthcare professionals in primary, secondary and specialist healthcare services should:

- not initiate any new patients on Elleste Solo MX[®] transdermal patches;
- identify patients currently prescribed Elleste Solo MX[®] patches and make early contact for a review of treatment (see supporting information);
 - if ongoing HRT is required, switch to an alternative estradiol transdermal HRT product (see supporting information below)
 - if alternative estradiol transdermal products are not appropriate, consider prescribing another HRT medication
 - counsel patients regarding the different brand and dosing regimen prescribed; and
 - review patients 3 months after switching (unless there are clinical indications for an earlier review) and then at least annually thereafter.

Supporting information

Clinical Information

- Alternative estradiol patches remain available (see table 2).
- Equivalent dose patches are not available therefore, the dose will need to be titrated according to symptoms (see table 1).
- Please note, Elleste Solo MX[®] patches are applied twice weekly.
- Clinicians are advised to refer to [Clinical knowledge summaries \(CKS\) guidance](#) and [BNF](#) for further advice on monitoring and managing symptoms and side effects such as vaginal bleeding.

Table 1: Switching from Elleste Solo MX[®] patches to alternative estradiol patches

Elleste Solo MX [®] patch	Nearest alternative strength estradiol patch
40micrograms	50micrograms
80micrograms	75micrograms or 100micrograms

*Classification of Tiers can be found at the following link:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/a-guide-to-managing-medicines-supply-and-shortages/>

Availability information

Table 2: Summary of alternative estradiol transdermal patches

Brand Name	Strength	Stock availability
Estraderm MX [®]	50micrograms	In stock
	75micrograms	In stock
	100micrograms	In stock
Estradot [®]	50micrograms	In stock*
	75micrograms	Out of stock until w/c 31 st May 2021
	100micrograms	In stock*
Evorel [®]	50micrograms	In stock
	75micrograms	In stock
	100micrograms	In stock
Progynova TS [®]	50micrograms	In stock
	100micrograms	In stock

**This product cannot support any uplift in demand. Please liaise with your local pharmacy to ensure availability before prescribing.*

Please refer to the SPCs for further information on all preparations:

- [SPC Elleste Solo MX 40 and 80 patches](#)
- [SPC Estraderm MX 50, 75 and 100 patches](#)
- [SPC Estradot 50, 75 and 100 patches](#)
- [SPC Evorel 50, 75 and 100 patches](#)
- [SPC Progynova TS 50 and 100 patches](#)

Further updates:

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